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IDEA-0573
Copy 3 of 7

14 November 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, Development Branch, DPD
SUBJECT : Map Destruction Kit

1. As you may recall, we went through considerable exercise during the latter part of 1960 and early 1961 to develop a map destruction kit for the U-2. This move was obviously stimulated by the famous 1 May incident, and once the furor died down action on the subject followed a proportionate decline. The desirability of such a kit, at least in principle, is still fostered by the Special Projects Branch.

2. During the recent TSD seminar, our colleagues in [REDACTED] Building expressed their dismay over our failure to follow-up on our initial requirement for a map destruction kit. They claimed that they are prepared to go into production, once we give them the nod. Lt. [REDACTED] wonders whether or not TSD made an inspection of the U-2 cockpit to determine where a kit would fit during actual operation of the aircraft; secondly, would it be a safe package to carry; and, thirdly, could it be easily and securely activated. It appears the monkey is on our back, and hence, yours to ascertain that a production model can be developed which would satisfy our requirements safely.

3. I understand that one of our memoranda to TSD which would have closed the gap on this long ago has gone astray. It is requested that you reactivate our requirement with TSD in consonance with paragraph 2 above. I am attaching the correspondence which you provided me on this subject.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Executive Officer, DPD-DD/P

Attachment

Corres. As Stated in Para 3

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